

Amendment to the Claims:

Please amend the Claims as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (Currently Amended). A protective waistcoat comprising a front section and a back section and connecting means for connecting the two sections characterised in that the front section comprises at least one upper plate-formed armour cover part for substantially covering the chest region of a person wearing the waistcoat, at least one lower plate-formed armour cover part for substantially covering the abdominal region of the person, and that at least one of said upper plate formed armour cover parts is arranged in partly overlapping relationship to at least one of said lower plate-formed armour cover parts to allow a sliding relationship ~~some of said armour cover parts are arranged in partly overlapping relationship to each other so as to allow said parts to slide over each other.~~

2 (Original). A protective waistcoat according to Claim 1, characterised in that the at least one upper plate-formed armour cover part for substantially covering the chest region of a person wearing the waistcoat comprises, at least one upper plate-formed right hand armour cover part for substantially covering the right-hand chest region of a person wearing the waistcoat, and at least one upper plate-formed left hand armour cover part for substantially covering the left-hand chest region of the person.

3 (Currently Amended). A protective waistcoat comprising a front section and a back section and connecting means for connecting the two sections characterised in that the front section comprises at least one upper plate-formed armour cover part for substantially covering the chest region of a person wearing the waistcoat, at least one lower plate-formed armour cover part for substantially covering the abdominal region of the person, and that at least some of said armour cover parts are arranged in partly overlapping

relationship to each other so as to allow said parts to slide over each other,
further ~~A protective waistcoat according to Claim 1 or 2,~~ characterised in that
the right hand and left hand upper armour cover parts are arranged in partly
overlapping relationship to each other.

4 (Original). A protective waistcoat according to Claim 1 or 2, characterised in
that the back section comprises at least one armour cover part arranged in
partly overlapping relationship to the at least one lower plate-formed armour
cover part of the front section when the waistcoat is positioned on a person.

5 (Currently Amended). A protective waistcoat comprising a front section and
a back section and connecting means for connecting the two sections
characterised in that the front section comprises at least one upper plate-
formed armour cover part for substantially covering the chest region of a
person wearing the waistcoat, at least one lower plate-formed armour cover
part for substantially covering the abdominal region of the person, and that at
least some of said armour cover parts are arranged in partly overlapping
relationship to each other so as to allow said parts to slide over each other,
further ~~A protective waistcoat according to Claim 1,~~ characterised in that the
back section comprises an elongated central armour cover part extending
along the spinal column of a person wearing the waistcoat, and at least two
plate-formed side armour cover parts attached on each side of the central
armour cover part in partly overlapping relationship.

6 (Original). A protective waistcoat according to Claim 5, characterised in that
the central armour cover part comprises at least two webs extending in
opposite directions and connecting the at least two plate-formed side armour
cover parts on each side of the central armour cover part, and at least two
armour cover webs extending in opposite directions and partly overlapping the
at least two plate-formed side armour cover parts connected to the respective
connection web.

7 (Original). A protective waistcoat according to Claim 5 or 6, characterised in that the central armour cover part comprises two armour cover webs on each side of the central armour cover part, and two connection webs on each side of the central armour cover part arranged between the two armour cover webs placed on the same side of the central armour cover part as the respective connection webs.

8 (Original). A protective waistcoat according to Claim 5 or 6, characterised in that there is arranged an upper plate-formed side armour cover part on each side of the central armour cover part for substantially covering the scapula region of a person wearing the waistcoat; and there is arranged a lower plate-formed side armour cover part on each side of the central armour cover part for substantially covering the lower region of the back of the person.

9 (Original). A protective waistcoat according to Claim 1, 2, 5, or 6 characterised in that each armour cover part comprises a fabric lining forming an enclosure, and a first protecting material, that is held in said enclosure and is ballistic resistant.

10 (Original). A protective waistcoat according to Claim 9, characterised in that the first protecting material in the enclosure comprises a plurality of layers sewn together.

11 (Original). A protective waistcoat according to Claim 10, characterised in that, between layers of the first protecting material in the enclosure, there is placed at least one second protecting material that is resistant to penetration by a knife or an awl.

12 (Original). A protective waistcoat according to Claim 5 or 6, characterised in that the connecting means for connecting the front section and the back section of the waistcoat comprise a first set of straps extending over the shoulders of a person wearing the waistcoat and connecting the upper plate-formed side armour cover parts for substantially covering the scapula region

of the person with the at least one upper plate-formed armour cover part for substantially covering the chest region of the person.

13 (Original). A protective waistcoat according to Claim 12, characterised in that the first set of straps is connected to the upper end of the elongated central armour cover part extending along the spinal column of a person wearing the waistcoat by means of a second set of straps, and the lower end of the central armour cover part is connected with the at least one upper plate-formed armour cover part for substantially covering the chest region of the person by means of a third set of straps.

14 (Original). A protective waistcoat according to Claim 13, characterised in that at least some of the straps are made of an elastic material.